



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Governor's Office of Homeland Security

Matthew Bettenhausen
Director

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

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MONTHLY UPDATE

NOVEMBER, 2007

Message From Director Bettenhausen

Our thoughts and prayers are with those that lost family members, friends and neighbors in the recent California fires and we wish speedy and full recoveries to our enormously dedicated fire fighters and all those who were injured. As we turn to the recovery and rebuilding process, I wanted to take the time this month to thank and recognize all of our first responders--fire, police, emergency services, military, medical and public works, among many others, for their outstanding work. They constantly train and prepare for incidents like these, while also saving lives everyday---day in, day out--- 24/7, 365. Thank you, one and all.

I also wanted to focus this month on another important "first responder" and that is the individual resident of California. There is no doubt that by being prepared, listening to directions, responding quickly and being willing to help neighbors, untold lives and property were saved and additional devastation avoided. Being prepared is an individual, family, neighborhood and community obligation. It was very rewarding to see that preparedness in action---to see neighbors helping neighbors and communities coming together to assist one another to collectively pull through this tragedy. It makes you proud to be a Californian!

Better still, was to see so many people that had gone beyond personal preparedness and had volunteered with community organizations and were trained and ready to step in and help in this great time of need. We could not have done it without them. There were also so many other individual citizens

who volunteered to help with the mundane to the complex. Whether it was passing out water at the shelters, entertaining the children or caring for the sick and elderly---the volunteer spirit was everywhere. Out of these events, I know that many of those who were new to volunteer service will stay involved and continue their commitment to their communities and California. And as they do, we will be an even better prepared and safer state. Thank you volunteers, one and all.

Let me close with another quick story about community involvement and volunteerism in action. Last year in Sacramento, their Regional Citizen Corp Council held the first nationwide volunteer training conference and exercise program. It was a huge success. The conference ended with a full-day, full-scale exercise involving collapsed buildings. Sea Cadets volunteered to play victims for this exercise. It was a great experience for them and they got to witness Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) responding and using their talents and equipment.

Last month, the Sacramento region again hosted this national volunteer conference and exercise, only this year some of the 'victim' Sea Cadets came back as rescuers, having trained, equipped and founded a brand new Teen-CERT team. For me, seeing them working to save lives as part of the exercise was one of the highlights of the entire year.

Congratulations and keep up the great work!

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OHS Director Matthew Bettenhausen meets with President Bush

OHS Director Matthew Bettenhausen attended meetings in the nation's capitol in connection with the completion of the "National Strategy for Information Sharing" by the federal Department of Homeland Security. And a highlight included a meeting on Wednesday, October 31st with President Bush and DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff. The meeting capped an eventful day and series of conversations which led to the unveiling of the "National Strategy".

The Director complimented OHS staff for their efforts in helping shape the document. "It was great to be able to talk with so many senior federal officials about the great work the Governor and we are doing here at OHS. More importantly, it was good to hear back that they know California is leading the nation in terrorism prevention, protection, response and recovery efforts."

In a letter to Assistant to the President for Homeland Security

and Counterterrorism Frances Fragos Townsend, Director Bettenhausen commended the Administration for the



collaborative approach taken in the documents development. As chair of the national Governor's Homeland Security Advisory Council, Bettenhausen expressed a great deal of appreciation that the strategy included support and emphasis on state, local and tribal authorities' meaningful participation in local fusion centers.

Director Bettenhausen also made the most of his time with

President Bush and DHS Director Chertoff by reminding and reiterating "the importance of federal grant funding in making California better prepared to deal with fires and in planning, preparing, and equipping for future disasters".



Governor's Office of Homeland Security Encourages Eligible Partners to Apply for Fire Prevention and Safety Grants

On November 2, 2007, the Office of Homeland Security Director Matthew Bettenhausen encouraged local fire departments and emergency services providers to apply for federal grants under the 2007 Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Grant Program. The purpose of the FP&S program is to award grants for projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. The primary goal is to target high-risk populations, firefighter safety and mitigate high incidences of death and injury.

"This grant program is one of the many ways the Administration works with locals to leverage federal resources to enhance California's fire suppression capabilities," said Bettenhausen. In previous years, the OHS and the Office of Emergency Services (OES) have partnered with FEMA to deliver regional workshops.

The FP&S grants are separated into two "activities" 1) Fire Prevention and Safety; and 2) Firefighter Safety Research and

Development. Applicants must submit only one application during the application period and may include either one or both activities. Those eligible can apply for funding for up to three projects under each activity.

"The Office of Homeland Security and the Office of Emergency Services provides grant writing and technical assistance to fire departments and other eligible applicants seeking funds through this program," added Bettenhausen.

The FP&S Grant Program is administered by the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Grants Program Directorate. This is done in coordination with the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA). A similar FEMA grant program has allowed local, California fire agencies to acquire 137 fire fighting vehicles since 2001.

The Berkeley Fire Department is featured on FEMA's website <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/fps/stories/berkeley.aspx> for

For more information about Berkeley Fire Department's fire prevention activities, visit
http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/fire/Home_Fire_Risk/GrantOverview.html.

Governor's Office of Homeland Security Announces BART receiving \$5.4 Million for Mass Transit Security

On October 29, 2007, California Homeland Security Director Matthew Bettenhausen handed a check for \$5.4 million dollars to BART officials as the first installment towards improving mass transit security around the state. The funds come from voter-approved Prop 1B, a measure which Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger championed to improve infrastructure, security, and public safety.

"From day one the Governor has pledged that public safety is priority number one."

Bettenhausen said. "It's why he added security funds into the bond measure. I'm proud to deliver this check to BART which shows the Governor and OHS are moving quickly to put the money to better protect California's mass transit systems."

One billion of the nearly 20 billion dollars approved will be allocated to enhance

security and safety in mass transit systems and the state's ports. California voters approved Proposition 1B in November of 2006, which enacted the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006.

"The threat to transit systems is one of the most fundamental challenges for all of us," said Bettenhausen. "The Governor and the Legislature understood the threat and the need for increased security. These funds will help BART with the challenges it confronts keeping Bay Area residents and riders safe."



BART officials said they will use the money for new security cameras at its stations. The upgrades will allow BART to enhance security and help crime fighting efforts.

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security is charged with administering the Prop 1B funds. It's part of California's strategies to protect its 37 million residents from man-made or natural disaster.

Congress Set to Finalize Funding Levels for State and Local Program for FY 2008

The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Bill is one of the unfinished spending bills that Congress faces upon its return from their Thanksgiving Day break on December 3, 2007. The Senate and the House have both approved versions of the spending bill, but differences between the two must be reconciled. Negotiators must also consider the prospect of a Presidential veto.

State and local public safety agencies are slated to receive a

boost in funding for prevention, preparedness, and mitigation grant programs under the Senate and House version of the appropriations bills. The Administration and Office of Homeland Security Director Bettenhausen have been advocating for increased levels of federal funding to ensure our first responders have the tools and training they need to prevent and prepare for natural and intentional disasters.

Below is a chart of the major grant programs and proposed funding levels (in millions):

<u>Grant Program</u>	<u>House</u>	<u>Senate</u>
State Homeland Security Grant	\$550	\$525
Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention	\$400	\$375
Urban Areas Security Initiative	\$800	\$820
FIRE Grants	\$800	\$700
Emergency Management Performance Grant	\$300	\$300

1,000 Volunteers Free Up First-Responders for Mock Attack

By Daniel Fowler, November 13, 2007

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Civilian volunteers are slated to play the role of victims during a mock attack in California on Wednesday, allowing first-responders to both test their skills during the drill and still do their other jobs.

"Pulling hundreds more [first-responders] for victims would be . . . not a good use of resources when those spots can be filled by volunteers," said Steve Turner, public affairs manager for the Governor's Office of Homeland Security.

"The real work continues to move on an exercise day. You don't shut down fire stations. You don't shut down patrol stations," Turner said.

In its fourth year, the Golden Guardian exercise will have more than 2,000 participants from more than 45 local, state and federal agencies.

"It is the largest state run exercise in the country," said Jay Alan, deputy director of communications for the Governor's Office of Homeland Security, which is organizing the event.

"The two things we're really . . . testing this year in terms of this is mass transit and large stadium sort of capabilities," Alan said. Under the scenario, there will be incidents in Anaheim, Stockton and San Jose.

"In the scenarios . . . we are exercising the work of the

[Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Centers] to identify terrorist threats before they occur or soon enough where the result can be minimized and we can get the resources we need in place to either eliminate threats or reduce the impact of them," Turner said.

The incident in San Jose involves a bioterror attack at the city's stadium, Alan said.

Gwendolyn Mitchell, director of public affairs for Santa Clara

County, where the stadium is located, said the county is hoping to have 500 civilian volunteers.

"We have young people, seniors, disabled people," Mitchell said. "If we are ever in a situation where the county has to administer medicine to a large number of people in a short amount of time, we want to be prepared. This exercise helps us to test our readiness."

Having civilians participate in the exercise will also make them better prepared for a real incident

said Mitchell. "In the event that there was such an attack, the people who would be affected would be the public," Mitchell said. "So it's really important that the public know what to do, that the public know what to expect and also to know what we would be doing."



Homeland Security Funds to Finance Emergency Drill in Tahoe Basin

South Lake Tahoe may be classified as a rural community by the State of California, but that isn't keeping the Office of Homeland Security from taking an interest in the city's safety. More than a half-dozen local agencies are working with the OHS to accomplish a citywide disaster exercise that will encompass California and Nevada.

"Normally, OHS would be spending their resources on metropolitan areas like San Francisco, San Diego or Los Angeles, but because of our tourism base, they recognize how important and vulnerable we could be in the event of a natural or man-made disaster," said Darcie Carpenter, Barton HealthCare System emergency management coordinator and safety officer.

Meetings began last month with the OHS and such agencies as the Barton HealthCare System, South Lake Tahoe Fire Department, South Tahoe Police Department, American Red Cross, state of California Office of Emergency Services, Sierra

Pacific Power Company, Nevada Department of Emergency Management and the El Dorado County Public Health Department.

An all-day emergency disaster exercise - known as "Golden Guardian" - will be conducted in November 2008. It will be financed and coordinated by the OHS.

A December meeting will take place in South Lake Tahoe where specific objectives for the 2008 disaster exercise will be identified by the planning team. The aftereffects of a major earthquake, including a seiche (a lake version of a tsunami), is the anticipated "disaster" on which the exercise will focus.

A March meeting is also slated, and as the November 2008 exercise draws closer, monthly meetings are anticipated.

For more information or for other agencies that want to participate, contact Darcie Carpenter at (530) 543-5541.



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OHS Professional Profile: Gary S. Winuk



Gary Winuk is the Chief Deputy Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and has served as a member of the office since its inception in 2003. In this position, he works hand-in-hand with the Director to ensure that all of

the State's homeland security efforts are coordinated, including its core areas of: threat assessment, critical infrastructure protection, training and exercises, citizen preparedness, and homeland security grants management.

In addition to his day-to-day duties at OHS, Gary has been a strong supporter of the Governor's Executive Fellowship program, sponsored by

California State University, Sacramento. This program uniquely integrates work experiences with academic and professional development. Gary has served for many years as a mentor in helping young professionals develop the skills necessary to become future leaders of California.

Gary is a Captain in the California Air National Guard and serves in the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps.

Previous to the creation of OHS, Gary was a Governor's Office Cabinet Deputy for homeland security issues and a Deputy Director at the Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning. He also worked as a Deputy District Attorney in San Joaquin County and a legislative aide to Assembly Member Juanita Millender-McDonald.

Gary is an alumni and serious sports fan of Rutgers University, where he received his B.A. in Political Science. He later went on to complete his J.D., with distinction, from Sacramento's McGeorge School of Law.

Gary and his wife, Amy, and their 3 children are local area residents.

**Look for more Golden Guardian 2007 in the
December newsletter!**



San Joaquin Sheriff's Department exercises crowd control techniques in their WMD (level C) protective clothing.